

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
WATER PERMITS DIVISION**

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR WATER QUALITY DATA AND INFORMATION

Public Request for Water Quality Data and Information Pursuant to the
2016 Integrated Report (Clean Water Act §303(d) and §305(b)) on Water Quality

In preparation of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's (LDEQ's) 2016 Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) List, the LDEQ is soliciting any and all information and data regarding those water body subsegments assessed by LDEQ. Section 303(d) of the CWA, a component of the Integrated Report, requires the biennial identification of those water bodies in which water quality standards applicable to such waters are not being met. Those water bodies determined to be on the §303(d) list shall be prioritized in order to establish total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or other management strategies as deemed necessary to promote the protection and propagation of a balanced population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife, and allow recreational activities in and on the water.

The LDEQ currently assesses subsegments (water bodies or portions of water bodies) throughout the state using data from over 470 water quality network sample sites, records of spills or complaints, fish tissue, and contamination data. In order to supplement this assessment information, LDEQ is requesting any and all data and information pertaining to Louisiana's water bodies throughout the state as defined in LAC 33:IX.1123, Table 3. A current list of these subsegments in the regulations can be found on the LDEQ web site at: http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=eRiJ6m2tb_U%3d&tabid=1674. At this link, go to Chapter 11, Table 3, to view the list of subsegments and their associated criteria.

Scientifically valid data and information collected as part of a governmental agency, university, industry, or private organization study can be submitted for consideration in assessing Louisiana's water bodies. All data and information must comply with requirements set forth in LDEQ's *Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)-Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network*. Data or information that falls outside the scope of LDEQ's Water Quality QAPP must be reviewed by LDEQ for scientific merit and accuracy. Data sets not meeting the quality requirements outlined in the QAPP may be precluded from use for water quality assessment purposes. An individual responsible for the quality and accuracy of any information or data submitted must attest to that accuracy by signing the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Certification statement at the bottom of this public notice or a facsimile of this statement. LDEQ will determine the ultimate suitability for inclusion of all data and information submitted.

A copy of the above referenced QAPP can be found at:

http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Portals/0/planning/QAPPs/QAPP_1004_r08%202014%20FINAL%2010-14-14.pdf. The QAPP can also be reviewed or purchased by contacting the Public Records group within LDEQ. Public Records is located in the Galvez Building, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you need assistance, please contact them by phone at (225) 219-5337 or email publicrecords@LA.GOV. You may also wish to go directly to the Public Records web page at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2231/Default.aspx>. The standard copy fee of \$0.25 per page will be charged for hard copies. CD copies of the documents can be provided for \$5.00 (plus \$25.00 per hour data processing fee). Certain qualifying organizations may qualify for reduced copy and transmittal fees. Contact Public Records for more information on this option. A copy of Louisiana's 2014 Water Quality Integrated Report assessments can be found at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits/WaterQualityStandardsAssessment/WaterQualityInventorySection305b/2014IntegratedReport.aspx>. A summary table of the 2014 assessments can be found in Appendix A. Subsegments may have changed between the 2014 and upcoming 2016 Integrated Reports; therefore, as noted above, please refer to the most recent regulations in LAC 33:IX.1123, Table 3 for a list of current water body subsegments.

All relevant data and information should be sent to:

Albert Hindrichs, Integrated Report Coordinator
Office of Environmental Services
Water Permits Division
P.O. Box 4314
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314

Or by e-mail to: al.hindrichs@la.gov

Please include appropriate quality assurance/quality control documentation so that suitability of the data can be determined. Reference must be made to LDEQ's water body subsegment codes so that all data and information can be assigned to the correct water body. **The deadline for receipt of information is Wednesday, December 2, 2015.** If you have any questions concerning LDEQ's 2014 list of impaired water bodies, the CWA §303(d), or this request for information, please contact Mr. Albert Hindrichs at (225) 219-3189.

Quality Assurance/Quality Control Certification

I attest that I am familiar with LDEQ's quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures and hereby certify that the attached information or data, submitted for consideration as part of Louisiana's 2016 §303(d) listing procedures, meets or exceeds these requirements. LDEQ's QA/QC protocol for water quality monitoring is defined in the document: *Quality Assurance Project Plan-Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network*. Further, all persons involved in collection and analysis of this information or data have been properly trained and supervised in appropriate QA/QC procedures as defined above.

Signature _____
Title _____
Date _____
Telephone _____
Email address _____

All correspondence should specify: AI Number 169294.

Publication date: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 - Advocate, Times, American Press, Times Picayune, News-Star, Town Talk, Courier, Advertiser